

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for operating a telematics unit within a mobile vehicle
5 communication system, the method comprising:
receiving a restricted use command from a service provider;
initiating a restricted use mode based on the received restricted use
command; and
modulating a transmission rate of at least one registration request
10 based on the restricted use mode.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the restricted use command
comprises a contact increment.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the contact increment comprises
contact rate information.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the contact increment comprises
contact initiation information.
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5. The method of claim 2, wherein the contact increment is one or
more predetermined values.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the restricted use mode operates
25 the telematics unit in a low-power configuration.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein modulating the transmission rate of the registration request comprises:

5 identifying a contact increment within the received restricted use command;
determining contact information within the contact increment; and
implementing the modulated transmission rate based on the determined contact information.

10 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving an updated contact increment from the service provider;
and

providing updated telematics information to the service provider;
wherein receiving the updated communication information is
15 synchronized with a registration request.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the updated telematics information is selected from the group consisting of: vehicle location, system energy level, ignition cycles, ignition status and diagnostic trouble codes.

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10. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
detecting an emergency event; and
initiating an emergency use mode responsive to the detected
emergency event.

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11. The method of claim 10 wherein the emergency event is selected from the group consisting of vehicle theft, airbag deployment, a predetermined reading from collision sensors and an emergency button press.

12. A computer readable medium for operating a telematics unit within a mobile vehicle, comprising:

- 5 computer readable code for processing a received restricted use command from a service provider;
- computer readable code for initiating a restricted use mode based on the received restricted use command; and
- computer readable code for modulating a transmission rate of at least one registration request based on the restricted use mode.

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13. The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the restricted use command comprises a contact increment.

14. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the contact
15 increment comprises contact rate information.

15. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the contact increment comprises contact initiation information.

20 16. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the contact increment is one or more predetermined values.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the restricted use mode operates the telematics unit in a low-power configuration.

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18. The computer readable medium of claim 12, wherein the computer readable code for modulating the transmission rate of the registration request comprises:

- 5 computer readable code for identifying a contact increment within the received restricted use command;
computer readable code for determining contact information within the contact increment; and
10 computer readable code for implementing the modulated transmission rate based on the determined contact information.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 12, further comprising:
computer readable code for processing a received updated contact increment from the service provider; and

- 15 computer readable code for providing updated telematics information to the service provider;
wherein receiving the updated communication information is synchronized with a registration request.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the updated telematics information is selected from the group consisting of: vehicle location, system energy level, ignition cycles, ignition status and diagnostic trouble codes.

21. The computer readable medium of claim 12, further comprising:
25 computer readable code for detecting an emergency event; and
computer readable code for initiating an emergency use mode responsive to the detected emergency event.

22. A system for operating a telematics unit within a mobile vehicle, the system comprising:

- means for receiving a restricted use command from a service
- 5 provider;
- means for initiating a restricted use mode based on the received restricted use command; and
- means for modulating a transmission rate of at least one registration request based on the restricted use mode.

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